

~~SECRET~~
***ARMY Declass/Release Instructions On File**

NID 920

4 December 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF, MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE:

SUBJECT: Essential Elements of Information

1. This directive prescribes the procedure for the Military Intelligence Service to follow in carrying out the provisions of War Department General Staff Circular 5-2a and of paragraph 114b, Field Manual 30-5, relating to Essential Elements of Information. The Field Manual holds each commander, assisted by his intelligence staff, responsible for designating Essential Elements of Information. The circular places in the Military Intelligence Service the responsibility for determining the Essential Elements of Information on the War Department command level.

2. The War Department General Staff Essential Elements of Information will be broad but specific statements of strategic intelligence required for formulation of sound policy decisions and for preparation of War Department plans. The Essential Elements will include the current major intelligence interests of the War Department, as known to all General Staff Divisions.

3. a. It is desired that the current Essential Elements of Information be determined by the Military Intelligence Service each three months and prepared for submission to the Chief of Staff. Each succeeding Essential Elements of Information will incorporate such changes as the varying world situation warrants. The general form of the report desired in each case is inclosed. It consists of a summary sheet for the Chief of Staff (Tab I) with attached current Essential Elements of Information.

b. It is desired that the first report be prepared for the signature of the AC of S, G-2 and submitted to this office not later than 15 December 1945.

Incl:

Summary Sheet (Tab I) w/Tab II

CLAYTON BISSELL
Major General, GSC
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2

RESTRICTED

TAB A

WAR DEPARTMENT ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION FOR THE PERIOD

15 December 1945 to 15 March 1946

1. * * * * *

2. * * * * *

3. * * * * *

4. * * * * *

SAMPLE FORM

RESTRICTED

MID 920

5 December 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF, MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE:

SUBJECT: Essential Elements of Information

1. This directive prescribes the procedure for the Military Intelligence Service in carrying out the provisions of War Department General Staff Circular 5-2A and of paragraph 11 b, Field Manual 3C-5, relating to Essential Elements of Information. The Field Manual holds each commander, assisted by his intelligence staff, responsible for designating Essential Elements of Information. The circular places in the Military Intelligence Service the responsibility for determining the Essential Elements of Information on the War Department command level.

2. The War Department General Staff Essential Elements of Information will be broad but specific statements of strategic intelligence required for formulation of sound policy decisions and for preparation of War Department plans. The Essential Elements will include the current major intelligence interests of the War Department, as known to all General Staff Divisions.

3. a. It is desired that the current Essential Elements of Information be determined by the Military Intelligence Service at least once each six months and prepared for submission to the Chief of Staff. Essential Elements of Information will be prepared at intervals of less than six months when required by the world intelligence situation. Each succeeding Essential Elements of Information will incorporate such changes as the varying world situation warrants. The general form of the report desired in each case is inclosed. It consists of a summary sheet for the Chief of Staff (Tab I) with attached current Essential Elements of Information.

b. It is desired that the first report be prepared for the signature of the AC of S, G-2 and submitted to this office not later than 15 December 1945.

Incl:

Summary Sheet (Tab I) w/Tab A

CLAYTON BISSELL
Major General, GSC
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2

COPY FOR POLICY STAFF